DC

ALL IN

13+ TEEN 53

HARLEY QUINN

MOVE FAST AND BREAK %@€#!

KALAN
LEE
FARRELL

IT'S A NEW DAY IN GOTHAM.

BATMAN #1

Superstars
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and **JORGE JIMÉNEZ**
introduce an unforgettable
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starring the Caped Crusader

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ALL IN

A fresh start for
DC's flagship
series begins in
SEPTEMBER

NORTHWEST GOTHAM
SOUTHEAST TOWER.
THE SPA SAUNA.

HOW ABOUT THOSE NEW ARMOR-PIERCING FLECHETTE CASINGS, GUNBUNNY? GOES THROUGH STEEL PLATE, THEN SHRAPNELS NICELY.

OOH, YEAH, THOSE ARE GREAT, MAYFLY!

HIT 'EM ONCE AND THEY'RE LIKE, "AAARRGH!" THEN YOU HIT 'EM TWICE AND THEY'RE LIKE, "BLECH, I'M DEAD!"

IF YOU HAVE TO SHOOT SOMEONE ***TWICE*** WITH AN ARMOR-PIERCING BULLET, THEN YOU'VE GOT NO BUSINESS SHOOTING THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WITH THAT ATTITUDE, NO ***WONDER*** RAVAGER'S GOT NO FRIENDS, RIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW. LOOK, THIS REALLY ISN'T THE KIND OF CONVO I THOUGHT I'D BE HAVING WHEN I MOVED INTO THIS BUILDING.

MAKE ROOM FOR AMYGDALA. IT BEEN A LONG DAY.

OKAY, LADIES, HERE'S SOME CONVERSATION MORE YOUR SPEED.

YEAH, I'M GONNA GO.

CHICKEN FINGERS, MRS. GRIMALDI, QUINNTELLECT. YOU'RE MY INNER CIRCLE. THE FRIENDS I'VE COME TO RELY ON, AND ALSO INADVERTENTLY ENDANGER.

YOU'RE MY BRAIN TRUST. AND IN ONE CASE, MY ***ACTUAL*** BRAIN.

I'VE GATHERED YOU BECAUSE I NEED YOUR GUIDANCE CONCERNIN' A DECISION THAT COULD VERY WELL SEAL THE FATE OF THROATCUTTER HILL.

AN INFLECTION POINT THAT COULD LIVE IN SEXY INFAMY!

SHOULD I GO OUT ON A DATE WITH MY LOCAL ARCHNEMESIS, ***ALTHEA KLANG?!***

DING!

MMF--

DON'T ANSWER YET. I GOTTA TAKE OUT PIE NUMBER SIX.

(LOUSY BLOCK PARTY...)

FAR BE IT FROM ME TO GIVE ADVICE IN MATTERS OF THE HEART, FOR HUMAN EMOTIONS ARE A THREAT ONE CAN'T SIMPLY PUNCH INTO JUSTICE...

...BUT TAKE IT FROM A DISGRACED POLITICIAN--THE ART OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT REQUIRES TURNING ***ENEMIES*** INTO ***ALLIES.***

WHAT IF IT'S A TRAP AN' SHE KILLS YOU? OR WORSE, WHAT IF YOU TAKE HER SIDE AND SUDDENLY YOU'RE SMASHIN' IN ***MY*** WINDOWS?

WHAT'S YOUR SPLIT PERSONALITY THAT'S SMARTER THAN YOU THINK?

TECHNICALLY I'M HER BRAIN, NOT A SPLIT PERSONALITY, THOUGH I **AM** SMARTER THAN HER.

SHE CAN'T HEAR YA, QUINNTY. YOU'RE IN MY HEAD.

RIGHT, OF COURSE.

YOU'VE GOT A HISTORY OF POOR EMOTIONAL CHOICES CONCERNING YOUR ATTRACTION TO DOMINEERING VILLAINOUS FIGURES. I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU FALLING INTO OLD HABITS.

EH, C'MON! I'VE BEEN HAVIN' ALL THESE THERAPEUTIC-TYPE ADVENTURES! I CAN HANDLE MYSELF, EASY AS ***PIE!***

AN' SPEAKIN' OF WHICH...

♪ WHO'S GONNA TRY,

♪ MY FRESH-BAKED PIE, ♪

I'D TELL YA WHAT'S ♪ IN IT,

♪ BUT I FORGOT WHAT'S IN IIIITTT! ♪

DING DONG!

I'LL GET IT!

I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE TRYIN' TO GET OUT OF TASTIN' THE PIE OR GIVIN' ME ADVICE, YOU'RE GONNA END UP DOIN' ***BOTH!***

WITH ANY LUCK IT'S A KNIFE-WIELDIN' MANIAC WHO'LL KILL US.

SIGH IT WAS A NICE IDEA, BUT ALAS, WE SHALL HAVE TO RETURN TO THE PIE.

HARLEY! IT'S FOR YOU!

(THIS STUPID PIE'S TOUGHER THAN SUPERMAN'S BUTT...)

HOWDJA KNOW IT'S FOR ME?

WILD GUESS.

DRESS TO KILL

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HARLEY QUINN CREATED BY PAUL DINI & BRUCE TIMM

HARLEY QUINN! PREPARE TO MEET YOUR WELL-DESERVED DOOM! STEP OUTSIDE AND CONFRONT THE POWER OF YOUR NEW ***ARCHNEMESIS!***

HARLEY, WHO IS THIS *SFIGATO?* AND WHEN AM I GETTIN' THIS MONTH'S RENT?

IT'S THE SAME ANSWER TO BOTH. ***I GOT NO FRICKIN' IDEA.***

I GUESS ALTHEA DIDN'T EVEN LET ME TURN HER DOWN BEFORE SHE SENT ANOTHER GOOFY GOON AFTER ME. THIS IS TAKIN' NEGGING TO LUDICROUS LEVELS.

ENOUGH STALLING! THE TIME FOR ***RETRIBUTION*** HAS COME!

I AIN'T STALLIN'! I'M PUTTIN' A PIE IN THE OVEN! I GOTTA BAKE A CRAPLOAD OF THESE THINGS FOR THE BLOCK PARTY!

(LOUSY BRAIN VOLUNTEERIN' ME TO MAKE PIES WHEN I COULD BE KICKIN' SOME DUMBASS'S DUMB ASS.)

SO BE IT! MY NEED FOR VENGEANCE ***BURNS*** HOTTER THAN ANY OVEN! I SHALL WAIT OUTSIDE AS YOU PREPARE YOUR PIES.

AND YOUR LAST WORDS!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BATTLE ***EVERY*** BOZO IN POWER ARMOR WHO CHALLENGES YOU.

NO, I DO. COMES WITH BEING THE NEIGHBORHOOD PROTECTOR-SLASH-CRIME-QUEEN-SLASH-WHATEVER-IT-IS-I-AM.

OKAY, PUTZ, I ONLY GOT A COUPLE MINUTES TO KICK YOUR METAL KEISTER BEFORE IT'S BACK TO THE PIE MINES, SO--

OOF!

THUMPA THUMPA THUMPA

BEHOLD! YOUR FACETIOUS ANTICS ARE NO MATCH FOR A CONCENTRATED BLAST OF PURE SOUND!

TASTE THE DEADLINESS OF MY DECIBELS!

THUMPA THUMPA THUMPA

GAH! IT'S LIKE MY WHOLE BODY IS A DAD CHAPERONING HIS DAUGHTER TO A K-POP BOY BAND CONCERT!

THIS IS THE END FOR YOU, QUINN! FOR I AM THE RAJAH OF RACKET! THE NABOB OF NOISE! THE POPE OF PANDEMONIUM!

I...AM CLANG!

OKAY, TAKIN' MY ENEMY-WITH-BENEFITS' NAME AND CHANGIN' ONE LETTER DOESN'T MAKE IT ***NOT*** MY ENEMY-WITH-BENEFITS' NAME.

LET'S EVALUATE. A+ FOR GIMMICK. AND I'M GIVIN' YOU A SOLID B FOR PATTER, 'CAUSE SURE, YOU SOUND LIKE DARKSEID AS PLAYED BY VINCENT PRICE, BUT AT LEAST YOU'RE TRYIN'.

BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE NAME, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO SEE ME AFTER CLASS!

THUMPA THUMPA THUMPA

ENOUGH OF YOUR *INSULTS*, JESTERESS! THE PAIN I GIVE YOUR BODY IS NO MATCH FOR THE PAIN YOU'VE GIVEN TO MY *HEART!*

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

LAUGHTER! TRIGGERING THE MEMORY OF HOW I BECAME THE ENGINE OF RAGE YOU SEE BEFORE YOU!

WHO DARES?

HAHAHAHA

BUD AND *LOU*, THAT'S WHO! THEY'LL LAUGH AT ANYTHING, 'CAUSE THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND ENGLISH AND THEY'RE KINDA STUPID.

IN OTHER WORDS, THE GREATEST AUDIENCE IN THE WORLD!

I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOUR WEIRD SPECKLED DOGS!

HYENAS, ACTUALLY. YOU CAN'T SEE TOO WELL OUTTA THAT THING, CAN YA?

STAY DOWN, CURS!

THUMPA

THUMPA

THUMPA

LAY OFF THE PUPS! I'M FINE WITH YOU BEIN' A WEIRDO WHO WANTS TA KILL ME FOR ***SOME*** REASON YOU EXPECT ME TO KNOW ABOUT.

BUT YOU DON'T GOTTA BE A ***JERK*** ABOUT IT!

WHANG!

NOBODY SHALL LAUGH AT CLANG!

LOOK, THE NAME, THE VOCAB, THE GETTIN' MAD AT HYENAS... YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MAKIN' IT ***EASY*** TO NOT LAUGH AT YOU!

PING!

THAT'S ENOUGH!

YOU, IN THE POTS AN' PANS.

DROP MY TENANT.

PUT DOWN THAT GUN. THIS IS NO CONCERN OF YOURS.

IT WASN'T A CONCERN A' MINE WHEN ***BETTY LOU RAGUCCI*** HAD TO LAY LOW AFTER SHE BLEW UP HER SECOND HUSBAND'S CAR, EITHER.

BUT AROUND HERE, YOU DON'T TURN YOUR BACK ON A NEIGHBOR.

PLEASE, ***GRANDMOTHER.*** THIS IS BETWEEN ME AND--

WAIT A SEC. "GRANDMOTHER"?

SID CAESAR'S GHOST! IT CAN'T BE!

YOU'RE...

YOU'RE...

THAT'S RIGHT, HARLEY. IT'S ME, ***RICHIE GRIMALDI.***

I WANT REVENGE FOR YOU BREAKIN' MY HEART.

AN' I WANT MY ROOM BACK, IF MY GRANDMA DIDN'T RENT IT OUT ALREADY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. MY OWN GRANDSON, A SUPER-VILLAIN?! I RAISED YOU TO BE AN HONEST, ***NO-POWERS*** CROOK!

YOU'RE BRINGIN' SHAME ON OUR FAMILY, RICHIE!

OKAY, CAN'T HELP FEELIN' A ***LITTLE*** INSULTED HERE...

IT AIN'T LIKE THAT, GRANDMA! I'M NOT USIN' MY SONIC SUIT TO ROB BANKS OR FIGHT BATMAN OR NOTHIN'!

THIS IS ABOUT THE WAY HARLEY MADE ME FEEL WHEN SHE TURNED ME DOWN. SHE ***LAUGHED*** AT ME, NONNA!*

*Back in Harley Quinn #47! --Jumping-in James

THAT'S THE STUPIDEST REASON TO GET SUPERPOWERS I EVER HEARD.

...GLAD YOUR FOLKS AIN'T ALIVE TO SEE THIS.

SLAM!

GRANDMA! ***WAIT!***

NOW LOOK AT WHAT YOU DID! I'M EITHER GONNA GET REVENGE OR AN APOLOGY, HARLEY!

A GIRL TURNS YOU DOWN, YOU PUT ON A SET OF IDIOT ARMOR, AND THE ***GIRL*** IS SUPPOSED TO ***APOLOGIZE?!***

YOU DON'T HAVE TO! YOU COULD ALSO CHANGE YOUR MIND!

OH YUCK! YOU KNOW EVEN LESS ABOUT WOMEN THAN YOU DO ABOUT MUSIC!

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT--

STAY OUTTA THIS!

LOOK, MAYBE I DIDN'T REJECT YOU IN THE MOST SATINY-SOFT WAY I COULDA. GETTIN' THE SNOT KICKED OUTTA YA BY THE FAMILY CLAYFACE MAKES A GIRL MEAN.

BUT SHORT OF STABBIN' YOU IN THE EYE, THERE'S NO WAY I COULDA SAID NO THAT WOULD JUSTIFY TURNING VILLAIN AND TRYIN' TO ***KILL*** ME!

DON'T YOU THINK I ***KNOW*** THAT?! DON'T YOU THINK I FEEL STUPID GETTIN' SO WORKED UP OVER THIS?!

DON'T YOU REALIZE--!

--THAT I PROBABLY JUST DID THIS 'CAUSE I WANTED TO ***IMPRESS*** YOU.

IF YOU'RE ASKIN' FOR SYMPATHY, I RAN OUT AROUND THE TIME YOU SHOT ME WITH A SOUND BEAM.

DON'T YOU HAVE THE HOTS FOR A LADY WHO'S TRYIN' TO KILL YOU?

THAT'S ***DIFFERENT.*** THE HOTS CAME BEFORE THE TRYIN' TO KILL ME.

SO KEEPIN' IN MIND THAT I'M STILL FEROCIOUSLY ANGRY AT YOU, I CAN'T HELP WONDERIN' WHERE YOU GOT THAT GETUP. NO OFFENSE, BUT YOU DON'T GIVE OFF A "TECH GENIUS" VIBE.

I BOUGHT IT FROM SOME GUYS ON THE EDGE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THEY GOT A START-UP MAKIN' ARMOR FOR GUYS WHO FEEL, Y'KNOW...

IMPOTENT?

I WAS GONNA SAY ***POWERLESS.*** I HOCKED MY TURNTABLES AND BOUGHT THE WHOLE PACKAGE.

CUSTOM OFFENSIVE GAUNTLETS, ROCKET BOOTS, EVEN THE VILLAIN-VOICE A.I. TRANSLATOR.

SEE? IT MAKES ME SOUND ALL BAD GUY-Y.

BEHOLD! FOR I POSSESS SUCH SINISTER DICTION AS WILL SEAL YOUR DOOM!

SO A COUPLE OF JERKS ARE SELLIN' JERK POWERS TO OTHER JERKS? YEAH, I CAN'T BE HAVIN' THAT IN THROATCUTTER HILL.

WE GOTTA TEACH THESE GUYS A BASEBALL-BAT-AND-DYNAMITE-THEMED LESSON.

WE?

CONSIDER IT THE FIRST DAY OF YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE.

BUT THIS ***AIN'T*** A DATE, AND YOU'RE STILL ON MY @#&% LIST. SO ***DON'T*** GET ANY IDEAS.

"MY LIFE'S COMPLICATED ENOUGH AS IT IS."

EVERY MOMENT I MUST WAIT FOR HARLEY QUINN'S ANSWER IS THE SHEEREST TORTURE. ***RAVAGER,*** HOW CAN YOU STAY SO CALM?!

LOOK, KLANG, I'M AN AMBIGUOUSLY MORAL SOLDIER FOR HIRE. I DIDN'T SIGN ON TO DEAL WITH YOUR ***LOVE LIFE.***

YOU WERE HIRED TO SERVE MY NEEDS, AND SERVE THEM YOU SHALL! RIGHT NOW I DON'T NEED COMBAT, I NEED EMOTIONAL SUPPORT!

SO ***SUPPORT*** ME ***EMOTIONALLY!***

THERE THERE.

THERE THERE.

DON'T WORRY, THERE'S A LOT OF VIOLENT GOOFBALL FISH IN THE SEA.

UGH, YOU'RE ***TERRIBLE*** AT THIS. LEAVE ME.

YOU KNOW, I COULD SOLVE THIS PRETTY EASILY BY ***KILLING*** HER.

DON'T YOU DARE! SHE CAN'T FALL FOR ME IF SHE'S DEAD!

THIS IS SO MUCH MORE STRESSFUL THAN BEING A MERC. I'M GOING BACK TO THE SAUNA...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, LITTLE MISS PIRATE PANTS? BEING THE BOSS'S FAVORITE GOT YOU DOWN?

UGH, JUST WHAT I DIDN'T NEED. STAY OUT OF MY WAY, YOU TWO-BIT FLUNKIES.

EXCUSE ME?!

IF YOU'D DONE YOUR JOB AND KILLED QUINN WHEN YOU HAD HER UNCONSCIOUS, I NEVER WOULD HAVE GOTTEN SUCKED INTO ALL THIS SOAP OPERA NONSENSE.

I CAN'T TAKE THIS DISRESPECT, GUNBUNNY. I FOUGHT WONDER WOMAN ***AND*** THE FLASH AT THE SAME TIME.

YOU'RE ONE OF THE BEST, MAYFLY. WE'VE GOTTA REMIND PEOPLE THAT THE GUNBUDDIES ARE LETHAL WEAPONS, NOT ***JUST*** KINDRED SPIRITS.

ONLY ONE WAY TO DO THAT. TAKE OUT QUINN, AND TAKE HER OUT ***NOW.***

WE'LL LOSE KLANG AS A CLIENT IF WE KILL HER CRUSH. BUT WITH A REP AS HARLEY SLAYERS, WE'LL BE ABLE TO WRITE OUR OWN TICKET!

GUNBUNNY, IF YOU HAD A SOIRÉE FOR EVERYONE IN YOUR LIFE, I'D GIVE YOU THE LARGEST PRESENT OF ALL. AND ON THE TAG I'D WRITE--

OH, I KNOW, MAYFLY.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A FRIEND!

MEANWHILE, IN THE THROATCUTTER HILL BUSINESS DISTRICT...

THAT'S WHY WE AT **SUPR** ARE DEDICATED TO DISRUPTING THE ENTIRE SUPER-VILLAINY MARKET-- BY GIVING THE AVERAGE ANGRY MAN ACCESS TO THE KIND OF BLEEDING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY PREVIOUSLY ONLY AVAILABLE TO THE MAD-SCIENCE ELITE.

DAVE, TELL HIM HOW WE'RE COMBINING *BESPOKE CUSTOMIZATION* WITH MASSIVE *UPWARD SCALABILITY.*

OUR APP'S ALREADY IN THE TOP FIVE IN THE "REVENGE AND MENACE" CATEGORY, AND OUR LEGAL PROTECTIONS ARE IRONCLAD.

THE TERMS OF SERVICE CLEARLY STATE THAT OUR SUPER-SUITS ARE ONLY FOR ***ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES*** AND ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR ACTIVELY ***NEFARIOUS*** PURPOSES!

SO CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR INVESTMENT? FANTASTIC!

WE'RE GOING TO BE RICH MEN, ***MATT!*** THIS IS GOING TO BE THE LARGEST-EVER IPO IN THE DEVASTATION SPACE!

AND THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PISSED-OFF GUYS WITH POWER FANTASIES, SO ***NOTHING*** CAN STOP US!

KABOOM!

AW, THEY JUST DON'T MAKE DOORS THE WAY THEY USED TO.

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS OKAY, HARLEY? I MEAN, BLOWIN' UP BUILDINGS AND ALL...

OH *COME ON,* AIN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE A SUPER-VILLAIN NOW?

ALL RIGHT, BOYS, SHOW YOUR FACES SO WE CAN KICK YOUR BUTTS!

SORRY, WE'RE NOT IN RIGHT NOW!

THUMP THUMP THUMP

I FOUND 'EM, HARLEY!

YEAH, THANKS FOR THE HELP, RICHIE.

NOW LET'S MOVE FAST AND BREAK THINGS.

INDEED. THESE MALEFACTORS SHALL FACE THE FURY OF CLANG.

I'LL NEVER LET YOU STAND IN THE WAY OF INEVITABLE MARKET PROGRESS!

YOU'RE NOT JUST FIGHTING US. YOU'RE FIGHTING THE FUTURE!

THIS IS THE VENTURE CAPITAL-FUNDED, SHARE PRICE-FOCUSED, QUESTIONABLY NECESSARY FUTURE OF METAHUMAN CONFLICT!

BLOCK-CHAIN!

DATA MINER!

KILLER APP!

BIG DATA!

TOGETHER, THEY ARE...*THE* USER BASE!

WHAT'S GOING ON? I WAS JUST ABOUT TO SHOW OFF TO THE GIRL WHO WORKS AT THE MOVIE THEATER, AND SUDDENLY MY ARMOR FLEW ME HERE!

SUPR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CONTROL YOUR ARMOR FOR PURPOSES OF CORPORATE SECURITY OR PROVIDING SET DRESSING AT PRODUCT-ANNOUNCEMENT EVENTS. IT'S ALL IN THE TERMS OF SERVICE.

OF ALL THE ROTTEN MOVES! YOU KNOW NOBODY READS THOSE!

BEHIND ME! CLANG SHALL SHIELD YOU WITH THE STRENGTH OF HIS WRATH!

I SHALL MAKE AMENDS FOR MY FOOLISHNESS, EVEN IF IT MEANS MY DESTRUCTION!

THAT'S SWEET OF YA, RICHIE, BUT I GOT A BETTER IDEA.

GIMME THAT IDIOT-CONTROLLING REMOTE.

HONESTLY, CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY PUTTING ON ONE OF THE SUITS OF ARMOR.

HEY!

CONSIDERING HOW OFTEN THEY BURST INTO FLAME? YOU COULDN'T PAY ME ENOUGH TO GET INTO ONE OF THOSE THINGS.

WAIT, WHAT?!

ALL RIGHT, TIME TO MAKE THIS NOT BE HAPPENING ANYMORE.

BEEEOOOoo...

HERE'S WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN NEXT. *YOU* DOINKS ARE GONNA GIVE *THESE* DOINKS BACK THEIR MONEY.

THEN YOU'RE GONNA LEAVE TOWN FOREVER AND GET JOBS THAT ACTUALLY CONTRIBUTE SOMETHING TO SOCIETY.

LIKE TATTOO ARTISTS, OR MALL SANTAS.

YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BEAT US INTO COMAS?

GUESS I'M GETTIN' SOFT IN MY OLD AGE.

C'MON, RICHIE. YOU GOTTA MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH YOUR GRANDMA.

NO! CLANG REFUSES! BETTER TO FACE THE ENDLESS ARMIES OF HELL!

AN' I'VE HAD IT UP TO FRICKIN' *HERE* WITH THE BADDIE TALK, PAL!

SORRY! SORRY!

THANKS FOR UNDERSTANDIN', HARLEY.

YOU'RE JUST LUCKY THAT IT WOULD BE HYPOCRITICAL OF ME TO JUDGE SOMEONE FOR TURNIN' SUPER-VILLAIN BECAUSE OF THE DUMBEST POSSIBLE CRUSH.

I'M PROUD OF YOU. BY SHOWING COMPASSION TO RICHIE, YOU'RE INDIRECTLY EXPRESSING SELF-COMPASSION FOR YOUR OWN MISTAKES.

UGH, DON'T TRY TO MAKE THIS A TEACHING MOMENT, BRAIN.

BUT STILL, I GOTTA KNOW. WHY'D YOU SAY NO? WHAT WAS ***WRONG*** WITH ME?

OY, RICHIE. I'LL TRY TO PUT THIS GENTLY.

NOTHIN' WAS WRONG WITH YOU, STUPID. BUT USE YOUR STUPID HEAD! LOOK AT WHAT GETS ME GOIN': PLANT TERRORISTS, DOM LAND-DEVELOPERS, KILLER CLOWNS. I GOT A TYPE!

AND ***YOU*** ***AIN'T IT.***

BUT THAT'S OKAY. YOU'RE A NICE GUY--AT LEAST YOU WERE BEFORE YOU GOT THOSE IRON PANTS. FIND YOURSELF SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T SPEND SO MUCH TIME BLOWIN' STUFF UP.

OKAY. OKAY, YEAH. BUT WHAT IF--

NO, RICHIE.

OKAY, OKAY, I GET IT.

NOW GO APOLOGIZE TO YOUR GRANNY OR I'LL NEVER TALK TO YOU AGAIN.

YES, MA'AM.

GRANDMA, IT'S RICHIE! I'M SORRY!

YOU FRICKIN' BETTER BE!

IT FEELS GOOD TO BRING A CRANKY OLD LADY AND HER DOPEY GRANDSON BACK TOGETHER. EVEN IF I'M THE ONE WHO KINDA DROVE THEM APART.

AND HAVE YOU MADE A DECISION ABOUT DATING ALTHEA?

YEAH, I HAVE.

I'M GONNA--

BLAM!

BEAUTIFUL SHOT, MAYFLY!

ONLY BECAUSE I HAD YOU CALLING THE ANGLES, GUNBUNNY.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

Ah, I can feel it. The fraying of ties that bind. The thinning of the strands of the social web.

The severing of suffocating connections.

Here's a place primed for my work. I will liberate these poor souls as I have liberated myself. I will see this community disintegrate.

And those who survive will thank me.

NEXT: WHO'S THIS WEIRDO?! HARLEY, STOP HIM! OH WAIT, HARLEY GOT SHOT. UH-OH.

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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

BATMAN

ALL IN

INTERVIEW WITH MATT FRACTION

Returning to a monthly DC series for the first time since the Eisner Award-winning *Superman's Pal Jimmy Olsen*, writer Matt Fraction talks his plans as the new *Batman* series writer—the dream job he's trained for since he was three—and teaming with superstar artist Jorge Jiménez, someone who is very familiar with the Gotham City streets.

What is your vision for the series and the character?

Matt Fraction: Between the end of Chip Zdarsky and Jorge Jiménez's run and where things are in *H2SH*, it felt like a moment for a new day in Gotham. We got a new Batmobile, we got a new costume, we got new characters.

This is the book that brought me into comics. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for *Batman*. It was the first comic I ever read. Some part of me has been waiting to this since I was three, and I have a lot of ideas and cool stories to tell. And it's a new #1! There's only been three or four of those!

How are you looking to approach the tone of the book?

Part of the reason Batman has lasted as long and has resonated as loudly as he has as a character is because he's incredibly resilient. He can be all kinds of things to all different people all at the same time, whether in comics, animation, or movies.

To me, [the new *Batman* series] is Batman central. It's a very superhero forward take on Batman. There's a lot of detective-ing, there's a lot of supervillains. All the stuff that makes Batman the coolest character in comics. I want to celebrate it all and give it all a chance to shine.

We're doing self-contained issues. Each issue is a full beginning, middle, end, and builds as the series goes. Every issue is a new adventure, a new style, a new flavor, a new take.

What's it like working with Jorge Jiménez?

He's a dream. He's incredible. He's fast. He's brilliant. There's nothing I've thrown at him so far that he's not been able to draw. Both of us are trying to make this the Batman book we most wish we can read in the world, and it's a whole lot of fun.

Which villains are you excited to write?

Killer Croc is in the first issue. Croc has gone through some changes with all the changes happening in Gotham. We have new villains coming—a lot of classic villains as well.

DON'T MISS
BATMAN #1,
ON SALE SEPTEMBER!

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